

10/590916  
IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 29 AUG 2006

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET HOS-77  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:                         )      Group Art Unit:  
  )  
Kikuo YAMADA                                      )  
  )      Examiner: Unknown  
Serial No. Unassigned                            )  
  )  
Filed:      Concurrently                        )

For: **CLEANING TOOL AND HOLDING MEMBER USED FOR THE SAME**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

An Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98. Please note the following particulars:

[NOTE: One only of items a, b, c, and d must be checked.]

a. The enclosed statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

b. The enclosed statement is being filed after a first action on the merits but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311.

The enclosed statement is accompanied by [check one]:  
 i. a certification in part (e) below as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), or  
 ii. a check in the amount of \$                 required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

c. The enclosed statement is being filed after the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, but before payment of the issue fee.

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PETITION: It is requested that the information being submitted be considered. [NOTE: If box (c) is checked, the following two boxes must be checked.]

[ ] PETITION FEE: A check for \$180.00 required by 37 CFR §1.17(p), is enclosed.

[ ] CERTIFICATION is attached to in box (e) below.

[ ] d. The enclosed statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(i), for placement in the file.

[ ] e. Certification [Check one] [Certification is required only if box (b)(i) or box (c) is checked.]

[ ] I hereby certify that each item of information contained in the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement,

or

[ ] I hereby certify that no item of information in the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

or

[ ] Appropriate certification is attached.

[ X ] f. If no check is enclosed and a fee is due in connection with this communication or if the check enclosed is insufficient, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee or additional fee due in connection with this communication to Deposit Account No. 19-1980.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERMAN AND ASSOCIATES

Attorney for Applicants

Robert L. Haines

Reg. No. 35,533

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415 N. Alfred Street  
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703-549-2282

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PATENT

HOS-77

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Kikuo YAMADA

Serial No.: Unassigned

Group:

Filed: Concurrently

Examiner:

FOR: CLEANING TOOL AND HOLDING MEMBER USED FOR THE SAME

Date: August 29, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the obligation under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant would like to call the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached form SB-08A (2 pages).

Applicant notes that Japanese documents A-C, listed on form SB-08A are discussed in the specification of the subject application at pages 1-4. U.S. Publication 2005/0144749, is the corresponding U.S. national phase application of reference C.

Documents D-F are listed in the International Search Report in the subject application, a copy of which is included

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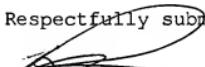
herewith.

English language abstracts for the Japanese documents are provided herewith.

Copies of the references listed on the accompanying form PTO/SB/08A and the International Search Report are provided for the Examiner's convenience.

Applicants are not aware at this time of any other prior art which could be considered to be relevant to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Attorney for Applicants  
Robert L. Haines  
Reg. No. 35,533

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Kikuo YAMADA
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

Attorney Docket Number HOS-77

## **U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>2</sup> , Number <sup>3</sup> , Kind Code <sup>4</sup> (if known)			
/LCG/	A	JP2000-083883	03-28-2000	Sekisui Jushi Co., Ltd.	Abst
	B	JP2002-165742	06-11-2002	Uni Charm Corp	Abst
	C	WO 03/070080	08-28-2003	Kikuo Yamada	✓
	D	JP H01-148283	10-13-1989	Duskin Co., Ltd.	✓
	E	JP2004-049628	02-19-2004	Uni Charm Corp	Abst
/LCG/	F	JP09-000483	01-07-1997	Tokai KK	Abst

**EXAMINER SIGNATURE:** /Laura C Guidotti/ **DATE CONSIDERED:** 08/17/2008  
\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Indicate copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \*Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).<sup>1</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.<sup>2</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard 3.1).<sup>3</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. \*Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.<sup>4</sup> \*Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.